

**Dwelling, 18537 N. Sherwood Drive**  
**CH-617**  
**Cobb Island**  
**Private**

**Circa 1930**

The dwelling at 18537 North Sherwood Drive, now demolished, was found on Cobb Island at the southern tip of Charles County, where the Wicomico Rivers flows into the Potomac. The building is typical of the vernacular bungalow/craftsmen style homes constructed in the resort areas of Charles County during the second quarter of the twentieth century. A common characteristic found on this simple version is the low-pitched roof with open overhanging eaves. The cottage is believed to have been built by Henry T. and Lucy B. Ireland who purchased four adjacent lots in Section A of Cobb Island in 1928.

**Dwelling, 18537 N. Sherwood Drive**  
**CH-617**  
**Cobb Island**  
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# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-617

### 1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic Dwelling, 18537 N. Sherwood Drive  
other

### 2. Location

street and number 18537 N. Sherwood Drive not for publication  
city, town Cobb Island vicinity  
county Charles

### 3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Vincent and Linda M. Harrison  
street and number 10107 Treetop Lane telephone Unknown  
city, town Lanham state MD zip code 20706-2137

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 90-1 Lot 73  
city, town LaPlata liber 1812 folio 25

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other:

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	1
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			buildings
			sites
			structures
			objects
			Total
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			0

## 7. Description

Inventory No. CH-617

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The dwelling at 18537 North Sherwood Drive is an example of a vernacular craftsmen/bungalow. The house, scheduled for demolition soon after the survey, is situated in Cobb Island on a grassy level lot with several mature trees including several cedars. The lot is bordered on the south by trees and shrubs. The dwelling shared the property with two small sheds.

This one story frame building was built after 1928. Originally covered in German siding, it is now clad in aluminum siding. The side gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Cornices are open with overhanging eaves. An enclosed porch encompasses the eastern and southern elevations and is pierced by several windows.

The eastern façade includes five replacement double-hung metal windows with 1/1 lights. Surrounds are aluminum. Moving clockwise, the southern elevation includes six wood

sash six light casement windows. The northern elevation includes two sash double-hung metal windows with 1/1 lights; and three possibly original sash double-hung wood 6/6 lights. The western elevation includes three sash double-hung metal windows with 1/1 lights; and one sash double-hung wood window with 2/2 lights. All surrounds are metal.

The eastern façade includes a metal single leaf, panel and light door.

The dwelling has lost much of its historic character and materials due to later alterations. Most notable is the common late twentieth century practice of enclosing porches to increase living space. \*The dwelling was demolished in 1999.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-617

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates Circa 1930

Architect Unknown

Construction dates Circa 1930

Builder Unknown

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The dwelling at 18537 North Sherwood Drive is found on Cobb Island at the southern tip of Charles County, where the Wicomico Rivers flows into the Potomac. The building is typical of the vernacular bungalow/craftsmen style homes constructed in the resort areas of Charles County during the second quarter of the twentieth century. Common characteristics found on this simple version include a low-pitched roof with open overhanging eaves.

In 1928, Henry T. and Lucy B. Ireland purchased lots 73, 74, 75 and 76 of Section A at Cobb Island that had recently been developed by the Wallaston[sic] Manor Corporation. After Henry's death Lucy assumed ownership and eventually passed the property onto her son Henry Grimes LeDane, who in turn deeded the property to his son George W. LeDane in 1958.

In 1918 Cobb Island, then containing only a few dwellings was purchased by Robert Crain(builder of Mount Victoria, CH-35) a prominent Maryland lawyer and farmer. Crain planned to develop the island into a summer resort and soon hired Washington civil engineer Edmund P. Russell to lay out streets and lots.

Improved transportation stimulated the Island's growth. Previously accessible only by water, by the 1920's a new concrete road called the Southern Maryland Truckline was underway. Completed in 1927, the road extended from Waldorf to Rock Point. A bridge connecting the island to the mainline was also completed in 1923.

These improvements and the growing attainability of automobiles to the middle class stimulated tourism in the region as urban and suburban dwellers attempted to escape to rural seaside retreats. Dwellings like that at 18537 North Sherwood Drive were originally intended to be seasonal cottages and thus usually small, inexpensive and simply constructed.

Today most Cobb Island residents live on the Island year round, and as a result much of this original architecture is being lost to demolition or extensive alterations.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. CH-617

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 1  
Acreage of historical setting 1  
Quadrangle name Wicomico Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The property at 18537 North Sherwood Drive is and has historically been associated with Map 90, Parcel 1, Lot 73.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title	Cathy Currey/Historic Site Surveyor		
organization	Charles County Planning Department	date	9/7/2000
street and number	200 Baltimore Street	telephone	301-396-581
city or town	LaPlata	state MD	zipcode 20646

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The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032  
410-514-7600

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-617

Section 8 Page 1

Dwelling, 18537 N. Sherwood Drive  
name of property  
Charles County, MD  
county and state

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Chain of Title:

October 18, 1928	Wollaston Manor Corporation to Henry T. and Lucy B. Ireland. Lot 73, 74, 75 and 76. Section A. Cobb Island Plat WMA 41 Folio 645. <b>WMA 50 Folio 93</b>
March 7, 1958	Last will and testament of Lucy B. Ireland LeDane. Lots 73,74,75, and 76 to son Henry Grimes LeDane. <b>WB GC 25 Folio 359</b>
October 2, 1958	Henry Grimes LeDane to George W. LeDane. Above lots. <b>PCM 150 Folio 85</b>
September 18, 1961	George W. and Emma E. LeDane to Miles B. and Cecilia M. Norris. Above lots. <b>PCM 155 Folio 103</b>
July 18, 1962	Miles B. and Cecilia Norris to Thomas and Loretta Higdon. Above lots. <b>PCM 158 Folio 650</b>
July 11, 1967	Thomas and Loretta Higdon to Wilfred Alvin and Nancy Lee Peterson. Above lots. <b>Liber 189 Folio 462</b>
July 29, 1968	Wilfred Alvin and Nancy Lee Peterson to Evans D. and Luella M. Gardner. Above lots. <b>Liber 196 Folio 442</b>
January 25, 1988	James E. Gardner for estate of Luella Mary Gardner to heirs. <b>Liber 1270 Folio 513</b>

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-617

Section 9 Page 1

Dwelling, 18537 N. Sherwood Dr.  
name of property  
Charles County  
county and state

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**Major Bibliographic References:**

Brown, Jack D., et al. *Charles County, Maryland, A History*.  
Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, LaPlata, Maryland.

Hickling, Lee. *An Illustrated History of Cobb Island*.  
Ambell Press, Cobb Island. 1989.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. *The History of Charles County, Maryland*.  
LaPlata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.



RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

Date: 10/15/99

North arrow:



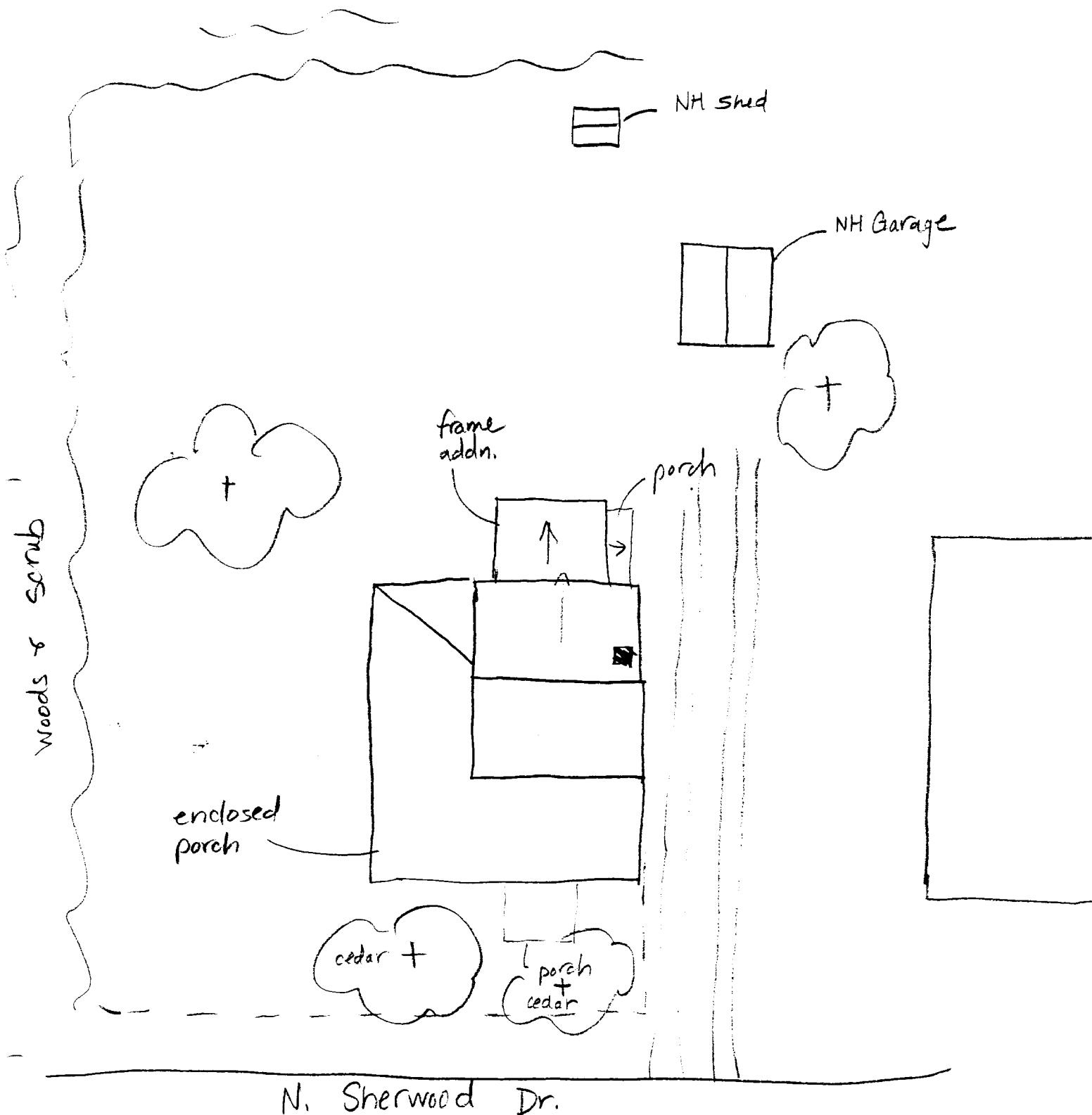
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

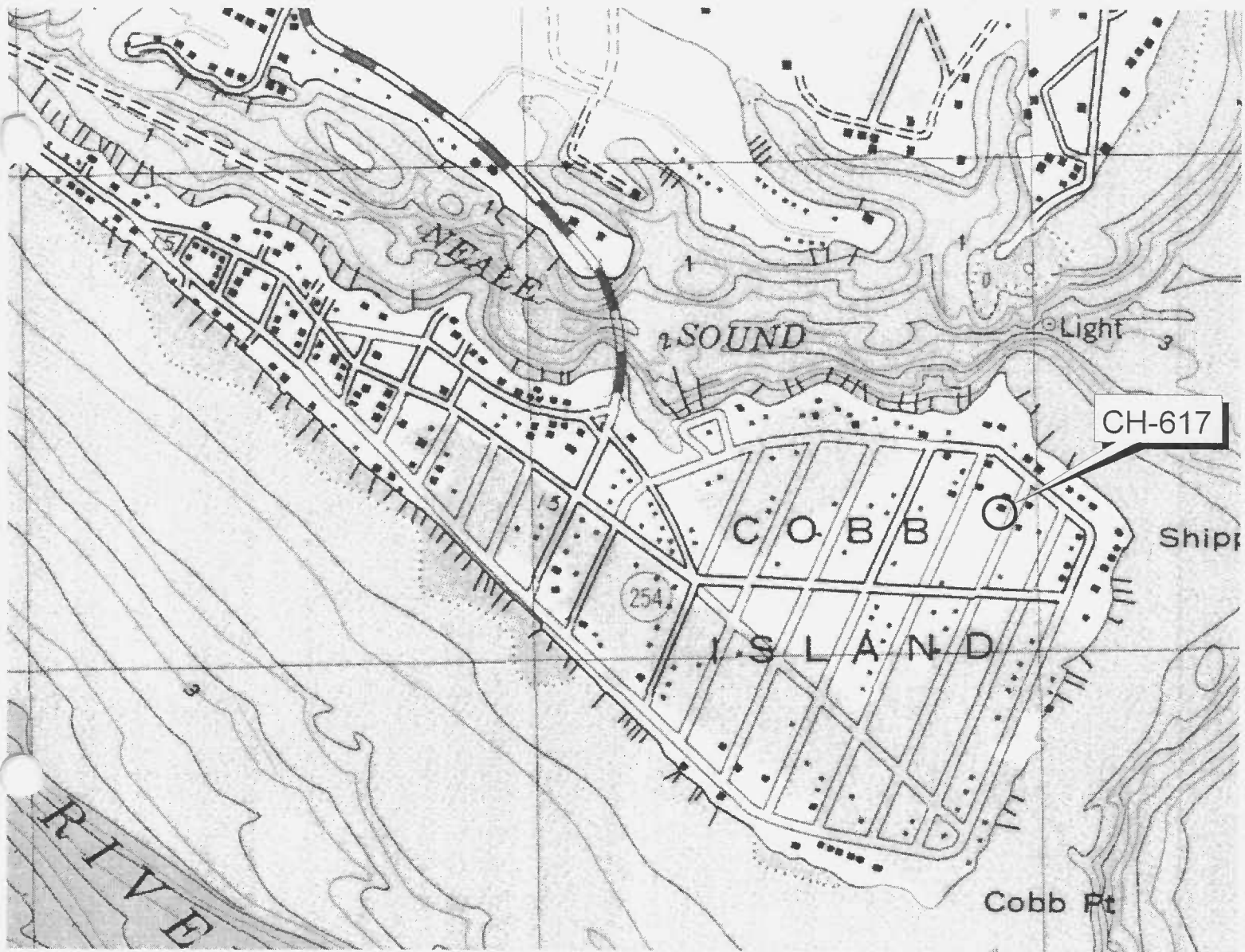
Address: 18537 N. Sherwood Drive

CH - 617

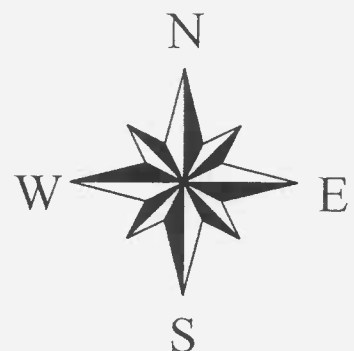
Charles County, Maryland

Cobb Island ☐ Vicinity





Dwelling, 18537 North Sherwood Drive  
CH-617  
Charles County, MD  
Rock Point, MD Quad





CH-617

HOUSE, 18537 N. SHERWOOD DR.  
CHARLES CO., MD

K.G. SMITH

10/99

MARYLAND SHPO

LOOKING SW

1 OF 1